bBv 475.10.1

Milwaukee, May 6th 1889

Prof. Wm. Brewster,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Allow me to present you with a copy of the English edition of my forthcoming work, the first part of which will be mailed to your address in a few days.

Many of the plates and a large portion of the manuscript was already in the hands of the publisher when the "A. O. U. Code and Check List" appeared. So I was unable to follow the new system our union has adopted, which I, however, fully agree with and which will be fully acknowledged in the introduction to the book. My work does not claim to be a strictly scientific publication; it is simply intended for the intelligent friend of Nature. It is my aim, further, to write an entertaining and instructive book for our young folks, so that the extravagant destructiveness so often manifested by boys, may give place to a sentiment of affection and a desire to protect our beautiful native birds. I have always admired your life-histories of Dendroica maculosa,

D. dominica, Protonotaria citrea &c as models of style, ideals of beauty, full of poetry. I am unable to write so beautifully, and even my German articles stand far behind such ideals. But I have tried to follow in your foot-steps, and wherever I was able I have fully appreciated what you have written. Were there in existence a work of that kind the publication of mine would be superfluous. Such books as Jasper's & Gentry's I think of little account. I would rather be without them than without your paper on the birds of western North Carolina.

Wherever opportunity offers I shall notice in my book the publications of our Union and all the writings of our great living ornithologists. When I quote I only shall quote the very best I am able to find. Let me ask you in this connection if you will allow me to use some of your articles for my book?

The price for the work was made as low as possible – the expenses are about $16,000.00 – so that almost every body who is interested in the subject can buy the book.

As I am a very poor "Yankee" my friend Mr. Wheeler of the Milwaukee Public Museum has been kind enough to controll the English text. He is a highly educated gentleman and a wellknown naturalist.

It is my intention to dedicate the book to our five great living ornithologists i.e. to yourself, Prof. Ridgway (who is also somewhat connected with the work as plate XXXIV and others show), Prof. J. A. Allen, Drs. Coues & Merriam. Will you have the kindness to accept?

Dr. Coues who also receives the more detailed German edition will be requested to write an announcement of the work for "The Auk".

Please write me what you think about the work. I am very anxious to have the opinion of such a distinguished ornithologist and classical writer as you are. Hoping that the work will meet your approval

I remain

Yours very respectfully

H. Nehrling,

815 N. Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

H. Schelling

May 6 - 1889

H. Nehrling

May 21. 1890.

Milwaukee, May 21 1890

Prof. Wm. Brewster,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I am and will ever be under obligations to you, and still I must come again and ask for a favor. From the enclosed report of the last meeting of the "Board of Trustees of the Public Museum" of this city you will see that the present custodian, Mr. Wheeler, an entomologist, tendered his resignation, recommending at the same time for his successor another entomologist, or rather an arachnologist, Mr. Emerton of Boston.

My name was brought before

the board by several friends of mine, I myself having made no application. Now a number of ornithologists and friend of nature advise me to make application at once, and to obtain ~~ac~~ commendations of our leading members of the A.O.U. What do you think about it? I feel my inability in certain branches of natural history, but I think that in the line of ornithology and mammology the museum would improve under my influence. These branches leave at present much to desire.

If you think me able for that position, would you be kind enough to write a few lines of recommendation for me which I can submit with my application to the board?

I am very anxious to have your photograph in my collection and would be very glad to get it. ~~as~~ You are one of our naturalists, whom I esteem especially and whose writings I cannot admire too much.

Yours very respectfully

H. Nehring.

Milwaukee, Wis. Box 379.

Milwaukee, Aug. 17th 1890.

Prof. Wm. Brewster,
Cambridge, Mass.

My Dear Sir:

I thank you most heartily for your last kind letter. Mr. Kumlien was not in "the race" this time, but about fifteen other more or less well-known naturalists were candidates. With the exception of myself no ornithologist was among them. Drs Merriam and Coues and Mr. O. Widmann had sent letters to the Board of Trustees, recommending me for the position as custodian. In the meeting of June 24th the board appointed me in the first

H. Nehrling
Aug. 17. 1890

ballot. There are many others more fit than I am, but I knew that the board would appoint no "outsider".

How do you like Pt. II & III of my work? The fourth part will be in your hand in a few days. You will find that I substituted for my own biographies your classical descriptions of Protonotaria citrea and Helinaia swainsonii. There is nothing in our literature that can be compared with your biographies.

Yours very respectfully

H. Nehrling.

GEO. W. PECKHAM,
President.

H. NEHRLING,
Secretary & Custodian.

OFFICE OF

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM

Exposition Building, Cor. 5th & State St's.,

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 8th 1892.

Dear Mr. Brewster:—

In a few weeks the first volume of my work on North American birds will be ready for distribution. It is my intention to dedicate the book to our five great ornithologists of the present time: Dr. J. A. Allen, Prof. W. Brewster, Prof. Robert Ridgway, Dr. E. Ones and Dr. C. H. Merriam, all naturalists whom I especially admire. Will you kindly do me the favor and accept?

My health is in a very bad condition and I am glad that I am home again. I hope to visit Boston again next spring, and then I shall have ample time to call on you at your private museum.

Very truly yours,

H. Nehrling.

H. Nehrling.

Dec. 8-1892

GEO. W. PECKHAM,
PRESIDENT.

H. NEHRLING,
SECRETARY AND CUSTODIAN.

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM

EXPOSITION BUILDING.

Request declined (Sept. 15) on acc. ill health.

Milwaukee, Wis., Aug. 18, 1893.

My dear Prof. Brewster:—

To-day I sent you a bound copy of my work "Our Native Birds of Song and Beauty" vol. I.

As there are quite a number of works known under the title "North American Birds", or a similar one, many of my ornithological friends advised me to make a change. Moreover the book was written mainly for the lover of birds, for the friend of Nature, and not for the scientist.

As you understand the purpose of such a book much better than any other scientific ornithologist of our country, I kindly request you to write a review on this my first volume for the October number of "The Auk". You would do me a great favor in complying with my request. Prof. Ridgway would also be much pleased.

Hoping that the book will meet with your approval

I remain

Sincerely yours,

H. Nehrling.

H. Nehrling.

Aug. 18-1893.

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William Brewster, Esq.
145 Brattle St.
Cambridge
Mass.

Gotha, Fla., Aug. 20, 1906.

My dear Mr. Brewster:-

Please accept my most heartfelt thanks for your "Birds of the Cambridge Region of Massachusetts" which you intend to send me. My express address is as given below.

Yours very truly,

H. Nehling,

Ocoee, Fla.

GOTHA, FLA.
AUG 18
A.M.
1906
2

[Palm Cottage Experiment
Gardens,
Gotha, Orange Co., Fla., U.S.A.
H. Nehrling, Director]

Gotha, Fla. Dec. 25, 1906.

My dear Prof. Brewster :—

I thank you most heartily for your great kindness of presenting me with a copy of your fine work "The Birds of the Cambridge Region". During the past few weeks I have looked it over and read many portions carefully, and I can assure you that I never enjoyed a treatise on local birds more than your model book. I can scarcely find words to express my admiration. Of course the scientific correctness is its main feature, but the beautiful style places it in the first rank of ornithological literature. Years ago I wrote you that I considered your descriptions — particularly those of some of the warblers — as classical. In fact nothing appealed to me in such a way as did your excellent description of the Magnolia Warbler in one of the first volumes of the "Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club". Your "Birds of the Cambridge Region" is replete with such descriptions. If I had been able to write in such a way I think my book would have found a better reception among the native lovers of this country. Your notes on the song of the Hermit Thrush especially inspired me with enthusiasm. I have found this bird

to be quite abundant in the Sheboygan Marsh, Sheboygan Co., Wis., and I must say that I never heard a more liquid and enchanting song.

Thanking you again for your kindness and wishing you a happy new year,

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

H. Nehrling.